



Earvin Empleo, Robert Davis, Shiante Lewis, Lynne Hannah and Derek Afalava along with hundreds of city school children rally at City Hall on May 13th to save the Library. Mary Stern's 2nd grade class from Paul Revere Elementary School let city and library leaders know that they wanted Dorothy back as their Children's Librarian.

## Neighbors Fight for Popular Librarian

Fight to save the library includes demands to bring back Dorothy Coakley

The fight to save the library has become an annual rite of spring for Bernal Heights. A meeting to save the Bernal Branch Library on May 12th marked the third time in a row that the community

came together to fight for and preserve their valuable neighborhood resource from the city's budget axe. Up to seventeen branches throughout the city could be closed if a proposed parcel tax is not approved by voters in November. A wide spectrum of people including children, seniors, parents, teachers and merchants came out as a unified voice to let library

heads and city leaders know how important the Bernal Branch was to them. This year's fight, however, contained a new demand from residents - that Dorothy Coakley be reinstated as the Children's Librarian at the Bernal Branch.

Many parents were upset upon learning of Coakley's transfer to

- continued on page 3...

## Community Policing Expanded into Bernal Dwellings

The Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC) has worked with neighbors all over the Hill to win cooperation between the San Francisco Police Department and community residents. By combining old-fashioned community organizing with community policing, we've kept large-scale drug dealing, drive-by shootings and gang violence out of Bernal Heights. But it's a constant struggle. In the past month, Bernal activists won a significant improvement in our community policing program.

### Lessons from Holly Court Victories

In 1988, the BHNC won its earliest community policing success when the residents of Holly Court Public Housing Development and their neighbors forced crack dealers off the corner of Highland and Patton Streets. Dealers have murdered two people, including long-time resident Charles Waddell, in front of 40 shocked residents. Three things were key to the victory at Holly Court: 1) assignment of specific cops full-time to the project, who were responsible for dealing directly with criminals; 2) cooperation between public housing tenants and their neighbors; and 3) use of anonymous

forms to report illegal activities to the police, without ever risking direct contact with violent criminals.

### Patrols Tripled at Army Street Projects

The Bernal Dwellings Public Housing Development ("Army Street Projects" at Army and Folsom Streets) are working with their neighbors to improve conditions in their area. Through the Precita Valley Coalition, residents have won major improvements from the City and the SF Housing Authority, including a written agreement for improvements, and funding for a full-time gang prevention outreach worker. But City Hall and the Police department had balked at providing the most important assistance: police assigned specifically to Bernal Dwellings, using the Holly Court community policing model. Meetings with Deputy Chief Tom Petrini produced the assignment of 4 officers, full-time, from the Police Department's Housing Authority detachment, as well as six officers plus a sergeant, three days a week, four hours a day. The officers will patrol Bernal Dwellings and the immediately surrounding streets, and operate out

- continued on page 2...

## People on the Hill

### Taking Care of Business

Claudia Viek and the Cortland Renaissance

Claudia Viek, a self-described activist, has learned a lot from her involvement in the Bernal Heights community and its issues. "I cut my teeth on the Elsie Street Plan - Charles Bolton of the North West Bernal Block Club was one of my mentors." As a Bernal resident living on Elsie Street for twenty years, Viek was one of the Elsie Street 'irregulars' who helped to delay the development of the narrow, hillside street until the neighbors felt a safe plan was established. The result was the Elsie Street Plan in 1976, which was the first neighborhood sponsored design plan for a community and became a model for the rest of the city. This activism and community

involvement were the roots for Viek's current work as Executive Director of San Francisco Renaissance, an entrepreneur's resource center for self-employed people who want to start or expand their own business.

Viek describes Renaissance as a place that "keeps the momentum going and decreases the stress and isolation that people often feel when they're doing it all by themselves." Her organization helps fledgling businesses understand the business aspects of accounting, marketing, finance, business planning, management, "everything a person needs to know to run their business. We show them how to write a good business plan that will serve as a really good roadmap for the growth of their business. We give

them the tools they need to become a successful business."

Two years ago, Viek volunteered to organize a couple of workshops with the Cortland Avenue Merchants. "It helped to organize the merchant's thoughts on what they needed to do and what the street needed," recalls Viek, "An active merchants' association is important for Cortland and now there is real potential for it to take off." She concludes that the Cortland Merchants' Association is lacking administrative support and doesn't have the funding to obtain it. "The Cortland Merchants need to take more aggressive actions and make a commitment towards working for a stronger association." Viek sees the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center (BHNC) as a key



Elsie Street resident Claudia Viek

Photo by Vicki Victoria

player in the success of Cortland Avenue. "The BHNC can build on this positive trend through finding a matching grant from the city, obtain economic development funds and provide in-house

administrative support from the Neighborhood Center. There has to be a real partnership between the two. The Neighborhood Center has access to a

- continued on page 4...

# new Bernal Journal

515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110  
(415) 206-2144

The *New Bernal Journal* is a bi-monthly neighborhood newspaper sponsored by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with community news, ideas, issues, and events that support the Center's mission: "To empower people in efforts to preserve the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and improve the economic condition of low and moderate income people in Bernal Heights." The *New Bernal Journal* is distributed door to door, free in Bernal Heights. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

**For Advertising Call: 206-2144**

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We reserve the right to edit for clarity or space.  
Circulation for this issue: 8,000

## New Bernal Journal Staff/Volunteers

Editor	Vicki Victoria
Youth Assistant	Tanisha Johnson
Photography	Robert Henderson, Vicki Victoria
Art Production	Victoria Graphics
Distribution	David Rogers & a cast of hundreds!
Contributors	Jeanne Poole, Helen Heller, Buck Bagot, Barbara Pitschel, Lisa Steadman

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## Letters

### To The Wonderful Bernal Heights Neighborhood:

On May 12th over seventy of you showed up at the Bernal Heights Library wearing signs that said "Where's Dorothy?" A representative from the Mayor's Office, the Chief of (Library) Branches, and the Head of the Library Commission were present to hear your concerns about the future of the Bernal Heights Library and my absence from it.

This is a letter to say thank you and tell you that I am alive, well, and "temporarily assigned" to the Western Addition branch. I plan to return to Bernal as soon as the library will allow... and miss you all very much. As your children's librarian for the past four years, I have been able to be an active participant in our wonderful community and I plan to return to that role either as a civil servant or in another capacity.

Special thanks to Ron Morgan, Sister Suzanne, Dan Rosen, Steve Rosen, Mauricio Vela, Mindy Linetzky, Jane Coats, Ashley Wolff, Linda Gutlohn, Imre Mandoki, Lisa Krieger, Peter DiStefano and Mary Stern. Susan Kitazawa and Bev Bagdorf wrote letters and moved mountains... David, Tricia, Kathleen, and Mark have come over to Western Addition with news of Bernal. For those who I have forgotten to thank, I appreciate you all! I'll be seeing you as soon as a can... (How does "Bernal Heights Books" sound?) Meanwhile- thank you so much- and give your kids a big hug for me!

- Dorothy Coakley

### Dear Bernal Neighbors,

It was great to see the April/May BJ and catch up on the news that Herald Tribune doesn't pick up.

I've been interviewing people in Budapest and other parts of Hungary about how their lives have changed since the political changes what's involved in changing a political/economic system, and how individuals redefine their relationships to their public institutions. When people ask me about my experience and ideas, I'm glad to have Bernal Heights as my point of reference.

A few weeks ago I visited Transylvania, across the border from Hungary in Romania. The land is rich and the people are poor. They are Romanian, Hungarian, and Romany (Gypsy), and they share a long history of distrust. I met some wonderful people who teach English in the elementary school in a town named Solanta. They need English language books for elementary school children. And I think the children would be interested in learning about how children in California, from different backgrounds, whose parents speak different languages, go to school together, enjoy each other's music and food, create neighborhood events, and find ways of bridging differences.

I will be back home in Bernal Heights in September. Until then if anyone would like to establish a correspondence, or send books to the school in Solanta, write to me c/o Marosvary, Budakalasz, Duna Setany 39, 2011 Hungary.

- Berne Weiss

## Policing

- continued from page 1...

of an office at the development.

### Who Made It Happen

Congratulations go to the hundreds of Bernal and Mission neighbors and Bernal Dwellings tenants who signed petitions and attended community meetings to win this additional policing. Special thanks go to SF Housing Authority staff B.G. Nabors, resident organizer; Carol Wilkins, Finance Director; Deborah Whittle, Community Services Director; and Executive Director, David Gillmore. Supervisors Carol Migden and Kevin Shelley also played key roles, introducing legislation to force the changes if City Hall hadn't responded.

### Next Steps

The fight to make Bernal Dwellings a safe place to live is far from over. Anyone who lives nearby knows that the boom of exploding M-1000s has joined the sound of gun fire at night in the Dwellings. The community needs to work with the police to make effective use of the increased patrols. In the meantime, tenants will work with the Housing Authority through a new building captain system for day-to-day management and maintenance improvements. In the big picture, the City has applied for an Urban Revitalization or HOPE IV grant to totally reconstruct Bernal Dwellings. The tenants, the BHNC and other community organizations are working hard for its approval. • - By Buck Bagot  
If you have questions, call Mauricio Vela at 648-0330, or Buck Bagot at 695-0424.

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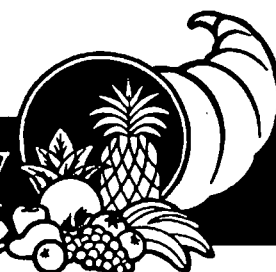
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# The GOOD LIFE GROCERY







Dorothy Coakley receiving a Community Service Award in October, 1991

## Librarian

Continued from page 1...

the Western Addition Branch in early May. They appreciated Coakley's positive influence with their children and her enthusiastic efforts to inspire the kids to read and use the library. Parents like Susan Meltleson were also impressed by Coakley's efforts to outreach into the community. "The kids from school used the library all the time because Dorothy would always make it accessible to them, even during hours when it was generally closed," remarked Meltleson. "She came to our PTA meetings to talk about the library and worked with our teachers to encourage them into bringing their classes to the library."

An apparent argument and growing conflict between Coakley and a library superior caused her to be transferred out of the Bernal Branch and into Western Addition. The library informed community members that they were 'investigating the matter' at this time. Neel Parikh, Library Chief of Branches could not elaborate

## Urban Refuge on the Hill

Volunteers have transformed a neglected corner of Bernal Heights into a place of natural beauty, brightening up the neighborhood and offering an urban refuge for native plants, birds, and insects.

Their renovation and landscaping of a pedestrian stairway - occupying a public easement on Eugenia Street between Winfield and Prospect Streets - enhances a much-used corridor to Mission Street transportation and shopping.

"It is a low cost, high impact project that has involved a cross-section of the community in its planning, planting and maintenance," said Lisa Steadman, of the Bernal Heights Open Space Committee.

"We've gone in and done something quite beautiful, something of lasting value that improves and protects the 'liveability' of our community," said Steadman, who as chairman of the committee, helped plan and organize the year-long project.

Forty-five volunteers first pulled out weeds and debris from the lackluster area, join-



Photo by Robert Henderson

Volunteers cleaned up the hillside and planted native plants in the Eugenia Garden on April 24th as part of the Christmas in April program in Bernal Heights.

ing together on weekend and holiday "workdays."

They decided upon a yellow-and-blue- color scheme, selecting a mixture of drought-resistant California native plants that are attractive not just to human passers-by, but birds and butterflies as well.

To bring the old and new together, they kept the existing trees but created a crisp new geometry of groundcovers, shrubs and flowers. They built a fence along the

stairs, then added hedging.

The stairway is one of San Francisco's several quiet, beautiful and hidden corners of natural beauty. A total of 18 stairways winding through the neighborhoods, many with sweeping views, are tended by volunteer gardeners. The project was supported by a \$1250 grant by the Bank of America and the donations of neighbors. The city of San Francisco contributed plants. The Eugenia Garden also received

assistance from the Christmas in April Program.

Steadman hopes to see more interest by neighbors who will commit to improving other open space areas in Bernal. She is also organizing a July 10th tree planting and graffiti paint out with Cortland Merchants and looks forward to the participation of neighbors. Steadman welcomes interested neighbors to call her for more information at 550-0529. •

on the situation, "Dorothy's transfer is a confidential internal personnel matter and can't be discussed in public." Bernal resident Jay Meltessen, however, felt that the library was not being forthright in their response to neighbors' demands for the reinstatement of Coakley. "The Library people were acting like it was a big secret issue," said Meltessen who did not accept the library's 'stonewalling' response to the community's inquiry of how the library would resolve the dispute.

Lisa Kaborycha, chair of the

"Keep the Bernal Branch Library Open" committee believes that there is more behind Coakley's transfer than just the 'personnel issue' that Parikh insists upon. Kaborycha explains, "Not only is Dorothy a great librarian, but she is also a great community organ-

izer. They [the library heads] are upset with her because people in the neighborhood respond to her. They don't like people who develop their own constituencies - it threatens their power." Kaborycha says that by not im-

continued on page 4...

Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center

ANNOUNCES

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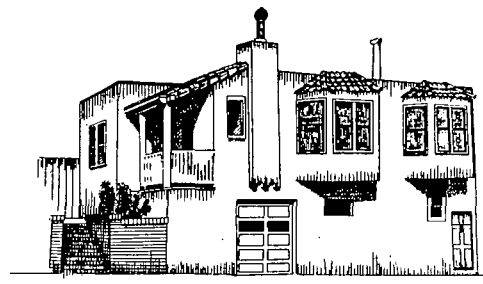
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## Cortland Renaissance

Continued from page 1...

lot of resources that can benefit the merchants. Resources like Renaissance are available to help focus and facilitate this energy and activity."

Excited about the changes in the neighborhood, Vick shares her enthusiasm, "Cortland Avenue is going to be lively! For 19 of the 20 years I've lived in Bernal Heights, it's been pretty dead on Cortland. There was no reason to shop there except to go to the cleaners or to get a video from Four Stars. I didn't even use the bank there much. But now I use the bank more because I go to the Good Life Grocery and Jinjee Flowers." Vick says that the entrepreneurs coming to Cortland possess an exciting vitality and have much to offer. She attributes the growth on Cortland in part to the demographic change of the hill, "There's a lot more wealth on the hill now. Recognition of this market has brought in the Good Life Grocery and there's been a lovely ripple effect since then."

Vick sees this marriage of market opportunity on Cortland similar to what was seen on Noe Valley's 24th Street and Fillmore Street twenty years ago. When confronted, however, with the possibility of over-gentrification that will force rents and prices up and lower income people out, Vick says that will not be the case in Bernal.

"Bernal is not overly gentrified. There was so little on Cortland in the first place," rationalizes Vick. "Yes, these new businesses are more expensive, but on the other hand, they are here, and they're making the street safe to use again. I've chatted, networked and gotten back in touch with some friends on the hill that I haven't seen in a while I'm shopping on Cortland...and none of us are wealthy. Before Good Life Grocery, I use to shop at

supermarkets out of the neighborhood, I use to buy my flowers and cheese on 24th Street. But, now, because it saves time, avoids traffic and is more convenient, I shop on Cortland." Vick says that the new businesses like Good Life, Jinjee and Nicco's Cafe are bringing people back into the neighborhood, especially those who have never shopped on Cortland before. "I don't think anybody really wants Bernal to become quite like Noe Valley."

Vick knows that a strong, healthy neighborhood is directly tied into a strong, stable business community. As a board member of the Chamber of Commerce, Vicks believes that the Chamber and big businesses have finally realized and accepted this. Vick believes that it is very unusual to have a representative like herself from a non-profit, community based organization serve as a board member. "I think this shows that the Chamber is really interested in reaching communities, like Bernal Heights and Cortland Avenue, and representing their

interests as well."

"The Chamber's primary goal of promoting the economic vitality of San Francisco empowers the neighborhoods as well as downtown, says

Vick. She also adds that the Chamber would like to lend support to small businesses as they deal with a variety of issues such as transportation, business taxes, safety, rehab funds, and public policy impact on neighborhoods. She advocates that the fate of big business and its jobs are holistically interlinked with the health and strength of the neighborhoods, "Micro-businesses like you see on Cortland, medium-sized businesses like Good Life or Just Desserts and big corporations that are downtown are all affected by crime, drug abuse, our youth not having jobs, and by our schools not working successfully. All of us, the Chamber and big business have recognized that now - what happens to youth in Bernal can effect the quality of life for everyone in the City."

- By Vicki Victoria

**The fate of big business and its jobs are holistically interlinked with the health and strength of the neighborhoods.**

## The Barn-Raising Spirit of Christmas in April



Photo by Robert Henderson

These volunteers from GATX Leasing Corporation worked hard reshingling and painting the facade of this home on Mullan, bringing renewed pride and optimism to the homeowner and to the neighborhood. This was the second year that Christmas in April-SF has renovated homes in Bernal Heights. Additional homes were repaired in the Mission, Bayview Hunter's Point, and the Oceanview-Merced-Ingleside neighborhood on the last Saturday in April. For further information about the program or to volunteer next year call Christmas in April at 905-1611 or the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation at 206-2140.



Photo by Robert Henderson

These happy, enthusiastic volunteers, from Miller, Freeman, Inc. and led by Stuart Stoller, a Bernal Heights resident, are typical of the 2,500 Christmas in April-San Francisco skilled and unskilled volunteers who repaired 29 homes of low-income, elderly, and disabled homeowners and renovated 7 nonprofit facilities on April 24, 1993. The Richland Avenue home pictured received a new kitchen floor, lots of fresh paint, a new garden, repaired windows, and had many boxes and bags of trash removed - absolutely free of charge, made possible by the neighbor-helping-neighbor spirit of the volunteers from corporations, trade unions and the community at large.

## Librarian

continued from page 3...

mediately reinstating Coakley, the library is further exercising their power over the community. "But we, the taxpayers, are the bosses. We determine who the employees will be. The library is trying to take this away from us."

"What I hear is that the Bernal community wants a good librarian and I will get them one," said Parikh who will be assigning a temporary replacement to the Bernal Branch. Parikh said that she could guarantee the continuation of good children's services at Bernal, but couldn't guarantee Coakley's return as the Bernal Branch's Children's Librarian.

"But people are not just blocks of wood," responded one neighbor, "You just can't just substitute Dorothy."

Keep the Library Open Committee member Ron Morgan feels that the community has lost a great asset. "Many people may not know it, but we've got one of the best children's book collection in the city because Dorothy knows what she's doing and made sure our library got the best books," exclaimed Morgan who is also president of the Junipero Sera PTA. Without Coakley's presence at the Bernal branch, Morgan says that the children have lost an important advocate, "Now kids just wander around there with no one to guide them." He says that this guidance is especially

important to children who come from families who are not fluent in English. Parents from Guatemala and Mexico who spoke at the May 12th meeting expressed their gratitude for Coakley's assistance in teaching their children how to use the library and gain equal access to it.

Coakley is touched by the support that the community has shown for her, "I really miss everyone and want them to know that I really love Bernal." She says plans to come back to Bernal Heights, the neighborhood, if not the branch library. "I was thinking of starting a bookstore on Cortland Avenue," Coakley said excitedly on a visit back to the neighborhood, "Folks from the neighborhood could run it in the day time and then my

husband and I could take over at night, after work." She realizes that the bookstore wouldn't generate a great profit and would probably make barely enough to pay the rent, "I want it to be a place for the community to gather, with free children's programs and art displays. I want it to be a gift to Bernal and its wonderful people."

- By Vicki Victoria

Concerned neighbors are encouraged to attend the next Keep the Bernal Branch Library Open meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 1993 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss community strategies. Meeting will be held in the downstairs room of the Bernal Branch.

**Come to a Community Education Forum on the Budget Impact on Bernal Heights**  
**How Will It Affect Our Community?**

**Tuesday  
June 22, 1993  
6:30 p.m.**

**Bernal Heights  
Neighborhood Center  
515 Cortland Avenue**





**S**an Francisco's budget crisis is not an illusion; it is real and it is long-term. The current \$200 million shortfall will not be resolved through the well-worn methods of cutting services and raising taxes. Nor will the budget be balanced with the financial magic of previous years — there are no City surpluses left to tap.

San Francisco deserves better. Putting the City back on firm fiscal ground will require rethinking how City Hall provides and pays for the crucial services residents need and expect.

#### The Root of the Problem

Cuts in state funding to San Francisco are severe, but they should not excuse bad management. The City will face a \$65 million budget gap in the next fiscal year before the state deducts even a dime. San Francisco is living far beyond its means. This fiscal year, City operating expenses swelled by 5 percent, while revenues grew by only 2 percent.

#### Where to Cut

Fortunately, the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors have viable alternatives to the quick fixes used to balance previous budgets. They must look long and hard at expenditures like these:

- San Francisco's 26,000 municipal employees are the best compensated in the state, earning

16 percent more than their peers in other California cities and 43 percent more than their federal counterparts. The outdated City Charter requires the City to pay many of its workers a premium above prevailing local wages.

The average San Francisco city employee receives \$62,000 per year, while 258 workers receive more than \$85,000. *More than 30 percent of this year's deficit is a result of automatic raises for city workers.*

- City workers filed 8,242 workers' compensation claims last year — the equivalent of one claim for every three city workers, or three times the claims rate in the California private sector. *Spiraling workers' compensation claims cost the City \$42 million last year.*

- The City does not provide some services cost-effectively. Muni has 25 percent more drivers on duty during off-peak periods than the City requires.

At the same time, revenue from fares covers only 28 cents of every dollar Muni spends; taxpayers pay the remainder.

#### Tough Choices: Real Solutions

The Administration has started to address many of these issues, but there is much more to be done and very little time.

We encourage the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to make the City live within its means by reducing labor costs, providing services more cost-effectively, better managing existing City resources and supporting efforts to reform city government.

**Magic won't balance the budget, just good fiscal sense.**

# This Is No Way to Balance the City Budget

## Yes

I want a long-term solution to the fiscal crisis. Support charter reform efforts, reduce labor costs, and provide services cost-effectively using existing City resources.

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San Francisco Zip Code

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**Computer Training.** Increase \$\$Earning Potential. Qualify for employment in one month! Data Entry • Word Processing • Accounting. Days/Evenings/Week-ends. Free Introduction. American Career Institute 495-0950.

**Moderne Graphics/Desktop Publishing.** Newsletters, brochures, business cards, catalogs, menus, t-shirts, letterhead, logos, newspapers, ad design. Free consultation. 282-7955.

## REAL ESTATE/RENTALS

**First-time Home-Buyer Seminar.** I'm a Realtor with my office right here on Bernal Heights, specializing in helping first-time buyers find a house or condo in San Francisco. This coming month I will be offering an informational seminar about the home-buying process. Hear short presentations by: a lender, Realtor, escrow officer, termite inspector and contractor. Find out about low down-payment loans, affordable neighborhoods, fixers and more. This free seminar is offered on Sat. July 10 at 10:30 AM at Brown Bear Realty. RSVP to Kristin at (415) 285-5700.

**Office Space for Rent.** Available for practitioners of alternative healing arts (bodyworkers, chiropractors, therapists, etc.) Reasonable rates and good location. For more information call (415) 285-7346.

**Great Spring Skiing!** Beautiful Tahoe home in prestigious Incline Village. Ski Squaw, Alpine, Diamond Peak. Large kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, steam/sauna room, livingroom with fireplace, 2 decks, garage, all appliances & laundry. 282-7955.

**Housemate Wanted** for funky charming house on Moultrie: private, medium-sized bedroom in rear of unused, detached garage, plus small workspace in front (for craftsman?). Share kitchen and livingroom in main house (plus two bathrooms/washer & dryer/piano) with WF, 40, half-time son, 9, dog & cat (sorry, no more pets). \$400/month, plus utilities. Available July 1st. A friendly, liberal household (non-smoking). 584-4550.

## PET CARE

**Does Rover need training?** Exercise? A ride to the vet? Want to be sure Fluffy is content while you're away? Positively Pets can help! Training, problem solving, pet sitting, geriatric care, exercise, transportation. 10 years experience. Bonded. References available. Senior discounts. 647-2463.

**Wanted - Dog Walker** - beginning first week in June, Monday thru Friday, between 4:30-6:00. Take well-behaved shepard/lab mix for walk around Bernal Hill. Am moving in June to 3600 block of Folsom/Eugenia - would prefer someone from that neighborhood. Terms negotiable - call 206-9332.

## WANTED

**Cash for furniture:** Household items, rugs, jewelry, taxidermy & collectibles. One item or household. Quick courteous service. 621-4390 or 824-1180.

**Gulf War Vets & Footage Sought** for television documentary. Military personnel who served the the Persian Gulf War - particularly women and ethnic minorities are sought for possible inclusion "Voices From the Storm." Call Tell Tale Media at 661-3664.

**Donate Your New & Used Stuffed** for the Bernal Heights Flea Market, a fundraising benefit for the Bernal Heights Senior Program on 6/19/93 at the Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland, 9am - 3pm. No useless junk, please! Clear out your closets of unused gifts and old jewelry, knick knacks, household goods, furniture, tools, toys, etc. For drop off or pick up information, call us at 206-2145.

## HEALTH

**Herbal Medicine, Acupuncture, Massage.** Licensed Acupuncturist opening a new office near Bernal Heights. General practice; also specializing in women's health needs: Gynecological problems, fertility, stress and pain management. Call for appt.: (415) 285-7346

**Counseling/Tools for change.** I provide a safe, nurturing environment to help you clarify times of transition, heal old wounds, release hindering patterns, and create positive changes in your life. Esther Goldman, M.A. (415) 431-1066. Sliding Scale.

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Helper needed for grocery bag** distribution to low income elderly in Bernal Heights. 3rd Wednesdays, 10:00 - 2:00 each month. Pick up and load/unload food donations and assist in coordinating sorting and bagging. Your help a few hours a month will make a difference for many senior citizens in our community! Contact Vicki at the Bernal Heights Senior Program, 206-2145.

**Neighborhood Artists/Craftspeople** are sought to volunteer their arts or crafts talents with youth and seniors from our community this summer. Share your talent and have a great summer! Call the Bernal Heights Senior Program at 206-2145.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Receptionist** to provide information to clients, direction to visitors and reception function for staff. \$8.21/hr + benefits. 2 years experience in receptionist/customer service environment, particularly in a social service setting preferred. Resume: Social Services Group, St. Anthony's Fnd., 121 Golden Gate, SF, 94102.

**Relief Staff** to fill in/assist staff at the Women's Shelter, Hygiene Center, and Women's Daytime Drop-In. Assist with dealing with any emergency involving police, paramedics, etc. and assist with Shelter activity. \$8.21/hr, on-call, various weekend, evenings and overnight shifts. Resume: SSG Relief, St. Anthony Fnd., 121 Golden Gate, SF, 94102.

**Youth Summer Jobs** for non-public school, low income youth, ages 14 - 21. \$4.25/hour, 20 hrs/wk, various job sites throughout the city. Applications available now. Contact Laura or Enrico between 2:00 - 5:00 pm at the BHNC, 515 Cortland Avenue, 206-2143.

**Job Postings** - If you have a summer job available for youth, post it free on the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center's Job Board in our lobby at 515 Cortland Avenue.

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New Bernal Journal  
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**611 FLORIDA ST. (Near 18th), S.F., 285-8588****\$10.00 Off Smog Test***Coupon expires 12/31/93***SAN FRANCISCO AUTO REPAIR CENTER***Since 1982, your caring***NEIGHBORHOOD DENTIST***St habla Español • Nagsasalita kami ng Tagalog*  
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## Youth & Senior News



Dave Jamison of Jamison, Cawdrey & Benjamin tells a class of fourth graders that art, writing, math skills and team work are important if they want to work in an advertising agency. Junipero Sera Principal Warren Kane helps to conduct the enthusiastic questions.

## Back to School

### Business Leaders Become Principal for a Day

On May 4, San Francisco business leaders learned about the challenges and joys the city's principals face everyday through the SF Unified School District's "Principal for a Day" program.

In a repeat performance, Richard Arnold, Executive Vice-President of First Interstate Bank, returned to Paul Revere Elementary School for his second year as 'principal' to observe classes and meet with students alongside Principal Randy Haves. "The only way to solve our schools' education problems is to get corporate America involved - that's why First Interstate has adopted Paul Revere School," remarked Arnold. "Twelve to fifteen First Interstate employees volunteer at least one hour a week with our children, providing reading and tutoring assistance," says Haves, who is delighted with the bank's ongoing involvement with the school.

David Jamison, President of the Jamison, Cawdrey & Benjamin advertising agency was hosted by Junipero Sera Elementary School Principal, Warren Kane, throughout the classrooms of enthusiastic students. One student asked Jamison what it was like to work in an ad agency. "It's very similar to the way students in a classroom work together - we break up into small groups, solve problems, come up with ideas and share information to get the job done," explained Jamison. "I'm looking forward to an outgrowth of the Principal for a Day Program and for this relationship to continue throughout the year," commented Principal Kane, "I hope we can work together towards finding solutions to some of the problems facing our schools."

## Seniors to Storm City Hall Over Budget Cuts

On Thursday, June 10, hundreds of San Francisco seniors will rally at City Hall to protest Mayor Jordan's proposed city budget cuts and to present the Senior Platform, a list of 10 demands and 10 revenue makers.

"The mayor's proposal to balance the budget places an unfair burden on senior services," says Geraldine Earp, president of Senior Action Network, which represents over 14,000 San Francisco seniors from 84 member organizations who work together to mobilize seniors on issues that directly improve the quality of their lives. Earp also added, "Cutting health care, nutrition programs, transportation, crime prevention, and library services is cutting the heart of of senior services. These services are essential. We want our elected officials to have a heart and vote to maintain these vital programs. There are ways for the City to increase revenues without making heartless cuts."

At 10:00 a.m., three hundred seniors from senior centers, nutrition programs, hospitals and adult day health centers will assemble at 455 Golden Gate to march to City Hall for simultaneous meetings with each of the City's 11 supervisors with a final stop at the mayor's office. At 10:45, hundreds more will gather at City Hall's Polk Street steps for a "Have a Heart Parade." The event will end with a rally at 11:45 at the Civic Center Plaza. •

The Bernal Heights Senior Program will be providing group transportation to and from the rally and a bag lunch for seniors who sign up to go with their program by June 9. Call 206-2145 to sign up for the outing or for more information.



Paul Revere School students, Jeffrey Deal, Principal Randy Haves, Christine Sarmiento, Jonnae Holmes, First Interstate Vice President Richard Arnold and Latisha Bennett listen to Kiana Moore demonstrate her excellent reading skills.

Photos by Vicki Victoria

## News From the Library Muse

By Jeanne Poole

**Summer Reading-** Summer Reading starts June 19th! Every child can be a "STAR" by joining "Starring Library Kids", the San Francisco Public Library's summer reading program. Children can sign up at any public library in the city. Dates are from Saturday, June 19th through August 14th. Come on in and get started...read books in any language. Preschoolers may also join and win by listening to the stories read to them.

Summer reading is for adults, too... Drop by and see our new books or think about joining our adult readers' group that meets the third Thursday of the month at 4 pm. We'll be reading *Crossing to Safety* by Wallace Stegner in June.

**Recent Arrivals-** *Animal Hour* by Andrew Klavan: a suspense thriller happening at twilight on Halloween; *Justice for Some*: a new mystery by an American master of psychological fiction, Bernie Siegel, M.D. give us *How To Live Between Office Visits*-helps the reader handle fears of recurring illness, ways to deal with pain and anger and ways to become open. *Why Black People Tend to Shout*; *Cold Facts and Wry From a Black Man's World* by Ralph Wiley - Boston Globe says of it "Should leave nobody's liberal assumptions in tact."

**Budget Crisis:** Stay tuned for the latest on the library parcel tax-details to follow as we approach the November election...

Our special Family night program in June will be Jim the Clown-a mine preformer in June the 23rd at 7:30- Plan to come!!

**Kid Power:** Kids between 10 and 16 can volunteer their help in operating the Summer Reading Program... come help out your library and have fun too!

**Library Hours:** Tues. 10 to 6 pm; Wed 1 to 9 pm; Thurs. Fri. & Sat., 1 to 6 pm. Closed Sunday & Monday. Closed for lunch on Tue., 12 and 1 pm. For more information, call us at 695-5160.



Mike Callagy, owner of Arrow Pharmacy provided medication counseling to Sonia Carthenga, with the help of Spanish interpreter Carmen Muñoz (center) at the Bernal Heights Senior Program's Health Fair.

**Senior Health Fair A Success** - Eighty-eight elderly participants received free glucose, hearing, glaucoma, weight & height, medication and blood pressure screenings and tests from over a dozen health professionals and organizations on May 8th as part of the Bernal Heights Senior Program's annual Health Fair & Medicine Review. "The seniors were so grateful for the time and care that these health professionals gave to them," said Vicki Victoria, Program Director, "This year's Health Fair was another tremendous success because these people really care about the health and well being of our community's elderly." A big round of applause goes to:

SF Public Health Center #3 • Arrow Pharmacy  
No. California Society to Prevent Blindness • American Cancer Society  
SRx Medication Education Program • Safeway Stores, Inc.



# A Profile in Caregiving

When Tony Rodriguez did not come home on time from one of his annual deer hunting trips, Bernal Heights resident Celinda Rodriguez knew something was wrong. She asked her husband what happened and he said, "I got lost." She had already begun to notice some changes in her usually gentle, affectionate husband. He had become argumentative, began to criticize her cooking and even at times refused to eat. Then he began asking the same questions over and over.

Celinda and her husband Tony had lived in Bernal Heights since 1977. Tony was an amateur boxer known as the "Excelsior Kid" before he joined the Navy. When he returned from World War II, Tony worked as a truck driver for the San Francisco Examiner. Celinda, a former professional dancer with Club Si-

*...Her usually gentle, affectionate husband had become argumentative, began to criticize her cooking and even at times refused to eat...*

naloa, owned and operated a beauty salon in the Mission. They raised a daughter, Cindy, who joined the Marine Corps following her high school graduation.

It was just after Tony retired in 1982 that Celinda noticed changes in him. He washed their car every day and would insist on changing the oil, not able to recall that he had changed the oil the day before. "I had to take the car to the mechanic because Tony put too much oil in," says Celinda. When he started getting lost on his usual routes, Celinda decided to ask for help. That's when she heard about Family Survival Project.

San Francisco's Family Survival Project (FSP) provides in-

formation, education and support services to Bay Area families who are caring for an adult with a brain impairment. Tony had Alzheimer's disease and through the Family Survival Project problem-solving consultation and care planning process, Celinda was able to make informed decisions about Tony's care as well as get help for herself. Celinda joined a Spanish speaking support group for caregivers sponsored by FSP. She also was able to use some respite assistance to give herself some time off from caregiving.

Tony passed away a few months ago and Celinda is still recovering from the loss. She is, however, grateful to Family Survival Project for the emotional support and

the assistance in providing care for her beloved husband at a time when she felt she was at the end of her rope. She says she especially valued the sensitive, caring staff

who assisted her in developing a plan for her and her husband's future.

If Celinda could offer advice to caregivers, she would encourage people to call Family Survival Project. She says, "You don't have to feel isolated and handle everything yourself because services do exist."

- By Gerri Prestigiacomo and Theresa Sullivan

Since 1976 families caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease, stroke, head injury, Parkinson's disease or other adult onset brain disorders have gotten help from Family Survival Project, the Bay Area's Caregiver Resource Center. Call (415) 434-3388 for more information.

## Bernal Housing Corporation & Neighborhood Center Celebrate Two BAHSC Graduates!



Photo by Daniel Hernandez

Well-wishers surround Carol Corr at the BAHSC Graduation. Left to Right: Clo Dow, NIT-AMP Co-ordinator, Helen Helfer, BHHC Executive Director, Diane Ross, BHHC Board President, Carol Corr, and Jeff Bachman, Fiscal Manager.



Bill Sorro receives his Certificate from Stephanie Smith of BAHSC

Photo by Helen Helfer

Carol Corr, Special Needs Housing Co-ordinator for our Housing Corporation, and Bill Sorro, President of the Neighborhood Center Board and staff member of TODCO, were two of the 27 recent graduates of the Bay Area Housing Support Collaborative's intensive housing training program.

The purpose of the training was to increase housing production among the participating non-profit organizations throughout the Bay Area - both in new construction as well as rehabilitation efforts; and create a network among participants that will allow them to establish informal mentoring and technical relationships with one another. Stephanie Smith, a Bernal resident, was the key BAHSC staff member who initiated and organized the training sessions.

- By Helen Helfer

**Are you 14-17 yrs old?  
Interested in work, but not college?**

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Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center:  
Raul Rodriguez, 206-2140

Don't miss the next issue of the  
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August/September '93

Advertisers Call: 206-2144

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# BERNAL CALENDAR

**Otto Artiste Italo-Americane**, through July 7th. Bernal artist Diana Rossi will display her mosaic tiles in a show highlighting the works of eight Italian-American women artists. *Hosted by the Museo Italo Americano in the Mills Building, 220 Montgomery Street (at Bush).*

**Selections From 1992** - Runs June 8th July 3rd. Bernal artist James J. Gleeson will have three paintings featured in an juried exhibition highlighting the work of artists who participated in the 1992 SF Open Studios. Admission free. Public reception June 9th. *At the SOMAR Gallery. Call ArtSpan at 861-9838 for more information.*

**Cortland Clean Up and Taste of Cortland**. Saturday, June 19th. The community is invited to help beautify Cortland Avenue by painting out graffiti and cleaning up trash. After the clean up at noon, Cortland Merchants will treat participants to delicious samples and gifts. *Meet at the BHNC, 515 Cortland at 9:30 a.m. Call 206-2140 for more information.*

**Save the Library Meeting**. Wednesday, June 16th. Community members interested in keeping the Bernal Branch open can come to discuss strategies towards protecting their library. 6:30 p.m., downstairs meeting room, Bernal Branch Library, 500 Cortland Avenue.



An excerpt from James Gleeson's painting, "The Mission District." "I paint the Urban Landscape. In depicting the homeless and the marginal, as well as the drug dealers and the common man I try to capture what is going on in our society today."

Dear Neighbors,

Last week I posted three of the following City Planning Commission Notices on the land we propose to lease from the city for our affordable housing on the hillside behind the Farmer's Market:

## "Notice of Public Hearing

The Planning Commission will meet in Room 282, City Hall on June 17, 1993 beginning at 1:00pm to consider Case # 90.657 RS: Master Plan referrals to allow vacation of portions of street right-of-ways and portions of lots under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Agriculture Department and the combination of these portions into a large lot for lease to a not-for-profit organization to allow the construction of 46 affordable rental dwelling units in an NC-S (Neighborhood Commercial Shopping Center) district with a 40-X height and bulk designation.

For the property at: Southeast corner of Putnam Street and Tompkins Boulevard, Assessor's blocks and lots: 5731/1, 5732/1, and 5734/1 and portions of the undeveloped right-of-ways of Ogden Avenue and Bronte and Bradford Streets."

This is, in essence, a Hearing on the master plan referrals, as well as the environmental studies - traffic, toxics, soils, plants, etc. - we've conducted over the past three years for our proposed affordable housing development. The Negative Declaration was challenged in writing by four neighbors, and there will be an opportunity for public comment by interested people. If you have any questions about this Hearing, or would like more information, please feel free to call me at the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation at 648-0330. Or if you'd prefer to talk with someone at the Planning Department directly, please call 558-6347 between 9:00-4:00pm, Monday-Friday.

Sincerely,

Helen H. Helfer, BHNC & BHHC Executive Director



Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center

## • FILM SERIES •

FAMILY FILMS ON FRIDAY NIGHTS



### JUNE 11 SISTER ACT

Watch our very own next door community neighbors on Church St. take back their street. You'll recognize locals Whoopi Goldberg, actual Church St. merchants, and a BHNC Senior in this whacky comedy!

### JUNE 25 3 NINJAS

The newest of the ninja sagas, full of action packed adventures of this underground gang of rescuers. Adventure cartoon comedy.

### JULY 9 MOONSTRUCK

A slice in the day of a three generation family featuring an all star cast including Cher: everything from love and aging and lust all under the full moon in this fast ethnic romantic comedy.

### JULY 25 BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

This magical Disney fairy tale comes alive with the voices of Angela Lansberry and Rob Lowe that little kids adore! Musical fairy tale cartoon.

FREE ADMISSION

COME JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS

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## SPRING CLEANING?

YOU'VE SAVED IT THIS LONG.....  
NOW YOU CAN GIVE IT TO SCRAP

### S.C.R.A.P.

(Scrounger's Center for Re-Usable Art Parts) is a nonprofit dedicated to collecting clean re-usable materials for art and community projects. Drop-off your tax deductible donation at 2730 Bryant St. (between 25th & 26th St.), Mon - Fri 8 - 5:30. Call 647-1746 for pick-ups of more than three boxes.

Sponsored by the Recycling Program  
of The City and County of San Francisco

Congratulations to  
Fr. James E. O'Malley  
on your well deserved retirement.

Thank you for all that you've  
done for Bernal Heights!

With Love,  
Bernal Heights  
Neighborhood Center

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## Bernal Heights Natural History

### Wild Buckwheat

Written and Illustrated by Barbara M. Püschel

**A**lthough spring's spectacular displays of wildflowers have passed, a closer look will continue to reveal many subtle botanical delights throughout the summer months.

One especially lovely summer-blooming species is *Eriogonum latifolium*, wild buckwheat, a member of the buckwheat family (Polygonaceae). Many tiny pink and white flowers are grouped in each flower head, causing inflorescences to resemble soft little popcorn or cotton candy balls. Fuzzy, spoon-shaped leaves with silvery-white undersides are concentrated near the bases of bare stems. On Bernal, the plants rarely exceed a foot in height.

Our wild buckwheat, which begins blooming in April and continues until late summer, has many of the characteristics of a rock garden plant. It is especially prevalent on steep rock faces and in thin, stony soils. It is unfazed by these adverse conditions or by the strong, westerly winds that buffet Bernal during the summer.

*Eriogonum latifolium*, whose range extends along the coast from San Luis Obispo County to Oregon, is the sole food plant eaten by caterpillars of the green hairstreak butterfly, *Callophrys viridis*, a relatively scarce inhabitant of coastal hills from Monterey to Mendocino Counties.

If you would like to see these and other summer-blooming Bernal plants and help to preserve them, please join our Bernal Hilltop Native Grassland Restoration Project work parties at 11 a.m. on the third Sunday of each month. You can help with weed control and maintenance of the restoration test area. You are also welcome to begin to propagate Bernal seed to raise plants for reintroduction onto the hill. For further details call me at 282-5066.



Wild Buckwheat  
(*Eriogonum latifolium*)

### Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center June & July Board & Committee Meetings

- **Board Meeting**  
7:00 p.m., Mon., July 19,
- **Fundraising Committee**  
6:00 p.m. Mon., June 21, Wed., July 14
- **Outreach/Community  
Organizing Committee**  
6:30 p.m. Tues., June 1, July 6
- **Senior Committee**  
5:30 p.m. Mon., June 7, July 12,
- **Youth Committee**  
7:00, Thurs., June 10, July 8

All Committees meet at the Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue, unless noted otherwise. Call the BHNC at 206-2140 for more info.

Our 30th Year Anniversary Issue!

Celebrate With Us  
August/September, '93

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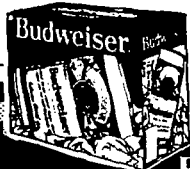
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